



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1651-MC

DATE: April 7, 2016

TO: Iowa Medicaid Case Managers, Service Workers and Supervisors,
Service Area Administrators, Integrated Health Homes, Health Homes
and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Services (CNRS)

EFFECTIVE: April 1, 2016

This letter is to serve as notification that the IME has promulgated rules implementing Community-Based Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Services (CNRS) as Medicaid state plan service.

Background:

The department entered into an agreement with Community NeuroRehab in 2010 to provide community-based neurobehavioral rehabilitation services for adults who have experienced a brain injury co-occurring with a mental health diagnosis as an alternative to costly out-of-state facility-based neurobehavioral rehabilitation, hospitalization, institutionalization, incarceration, or homelessness. The department has been funding these services through exception to policy while administrative rules were being developed with a stakeholder group representing brain injury professionals. These services yield a cost savings to the state for members who would have otherwise been admitted to out-of-state facility-based services for neurobehavioral rehabilitation.

Purpose:

CNRS is a specialized category of neuro-rehabilitation provided by a multidisciplinary team of allied health and support staff that have been trained in, and deliver, services individually designed to address cognitive, medical, behavioral, and psychosocial challenges, as well as the physical manifestations of acquired brain injury. As a Medicaid state plan service, the intent is to provide neurobehavioral rehabilitation services to adults with brain injury and co-occurring mental health diagnosis as an alternative to costly out-of-state facility-based neurobehavioral rehabilitation, hospitalization, institutionalization, incarceration, or homelessness.

CNRS provider qualifications are located at [441-IAC 77.52](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/01-06-2016.441.77.52.pdf)¹

CNRS member eligibility criteria is located at [441-IAC 78.56](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/01-06-2016.441.78.56.pdf)²

¹ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/01-06-2016.441.77.52.pdf>

² <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/01-06-2016.441.78.56.pdf>

CNRS service definition, requirements, and service limitations are located at [441-IAC 78.56³](#)

CNRS Reimbursement FFS reimbursement methodology is located at [441-IAC 79.1\(2\)⁴](#)

Service	Unit of Service	Procedure Code	Rate	Claim Form
Residential CNRS	Per Diem	H0019	Provider Specific Fee Schedule	HCFA 1500
Intermittent CNRS	15 Min	H2019	\$22.11	HCFA 1500

Prior Authorization (PA) Process for Fee-for-Service (FFS) Members

Providers proposing to serve members who are not enrolled with an MCO shall follow these instructions for service authorization.

PA for Treatment:

Prior to providing services, providers serving members who are not enrolled with an MCO must submit requests for PA of CNRS to the IME Medical Services Unit by faxing the request to 515-725-1356. Requests must be submitted using the [Request for Prior Authorization⁵ form](#) and will include the following documentation:

- Proposed Plan of Care
- Standardized comprehensive functional neurobehavioral assessment
- Medical documentation supporting the brain injury diagnosis and mental health diagnosis

Initial Treatment Plan Approval:

30 days following admission, the provider shall submit the member's treatment plan to the IME Medical Services Unit for review and approval by faxing the request to 515-725-1356.

The IME Medical Services Unit will approve the provider's treatment plan if:

1. The treatment plan conforms to the medical necessity requirements in rule;
2. The treatment plan is consistent with the written diagnosis and treatment recommendations made by a licensed medical professional that is a licensed neuropsychologist or neurologist, M.D., or D.O.;
3. The treatment plan is sufficient in amount, duration, and scope to reasonably achieve its purpose;
4. The provider can demonstrate that the provider possesses the skills and resources necessary to implement the plan; and
5. The treatment plan does not exceed 180 days in duration.

³ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/01-06-2016.441.78.56.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/01-06-2016.441.79.1.pdf>

⁵ https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/470-0829_RequestPriorAuthorization_0.pdf

6. A treatment summary detailing the member's response to treatment during the previous approval period must be submitted when approval for subsequent plans are requested.

Subsequent Treatment Plan Approval:

Prior to the expiration of the current treatment authorization, if the member continues to benefit from the CNRS, the provider may request authorization for continued treatment by faxing the request to 515-725-1356; the request shall include the [Request for Prior Authorization](#)⁶ and the following documents:

- Current Treatment Plan.
- Treatment summary detailing the member's response to treatment during the previous approval period.

The IME Medical Services Unit may approve a subsequent neurobehavioral rehabilitation treatment plan that conforms to the conditions of medical necessity and conditions of continued treatment in rule.

PA Process for Members Enrolled in the IA Health Link:

The MCOs will honor the existing IME PAs for 90 days for all services. Each MCO has established PA procedures for covered services. Please refer to Informational Letter [1628-MC](#)⁷ for PA for providers participating with MCOs.

If you have any questions regarding the IME PA for FFS members, please contact the IME Medical Services Unit at 1-800-383-1173 or locally in the Des Moines area at 515-256-4623, or email at PAservices@dhs.state.ia.us

The IME has detailed claim form instructions for all providers which are found on the [DHS Claim Forms and Instructions](#)⁸ web page.

Questions regarding the CNRS may be addressed to LeAnn Moskowitz, Program Manager at lmoskow@dhs.state.ia.us.

⁶ https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/470-0829_RequestPriorAuthorization_0.pdf

⁷ https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/1628-MC_Prior_Authorizations_PA_for_Providers_Participating_with_MCOs.pdf

⁸ <http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/Providers/claims-and-billing/ClaimsPage>